

*To provide the highest possible quality of education for all local children,
in order to ensure pupils from all backgrounds are able to succeed.*



12th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

It looks like an icy start to the half-term holiday next week, so hopefully the children will have a chance to play in the long-awaited snow. We will keep you up to date with how the weather may affect school opening through school gateway and on the school's website.

Staff and families have been working excellently in collaboration over the last couple of months during lockdown, which has been challenging for everyone. Please let me take this opportunity to say how proud I am of how our community has responded to this crisis, keeping everyone safe and continuing to support each other. Thank you to the families that took part in the recent parent/carer surveys, which were very positive, (please see the attached results). If you have any comments or suggestions to help us improve provision, please feel free to contact us.

As school leaders, we are looking forward to welcoming all children back into school as soon as it is safe to do so. The Prime Minister made the announcement a couple of weeks ago that he hopes to start reopening English schools on 8th March, depending on factors including the rate of infection amongst priority groups. But he would not guarantee that this would be before the Easter holidays. The Secretary of State for Education stated that parents and schools would be given at least two weeks' notice, so at that point we can start to plan for a full return to school.

We are prepared to continue the remote and blended learning for as long as it is required, but hope that the return to school will be much earlier. We will continue to keep you up to date and thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.

There will be no formal learning sent home over the half term holiday, however, please continue reading and keep active - our Sports and PE specialist from Okehampton College has provided a challenge for the children to undertake (please see the link in Dojo) that I am sure will provide much fun.

Keep safe and have a good break.

Phil Whittley